Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SOFIA 00571 301723Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 BIB-01 AID-05 CIAE-00 INR-10
NSAE-00 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 /066 W
----------043655 310653Z /14
R 301300Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY SOFIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4334
INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMCONSUL MUNICH
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY WARSAW

C O N F I D E N T I A L SOFIA 0571

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINR, PINT, BU
SUBJECT: BCP NATIONAL PARTY CONFERENCE: DISTRICT FIRST SECRETAJNES ELECTED

REF: A) 77 SOFIA 2535; B) SOFIA 0570; C) 77 SOFIA 2408;
D) 77 SOFIA 1272

1. MEETINGS OF ALL 27 BULGARIAN COMMUNIST PARTY (BCP) OKRUG (DISTRICT) COMMITTEES WERE HELD BETWEEN FEBRUARY 24 AND MARCH 25 IN PREPARATION FOR NATIONAL PARTY CONFERENCE TO BE HELD IN APRIL (REF A). AT LEAST ONE DISTRICT MEETING WAS PRESIDED OVER BY EACH POLITBURO MEMBER AND CANDIDATE MEMBER (INCLUDING TODOR ZHIVKOV), EXCEPT VARNA DISTRICT FIRST SECRETARY TODOR STOYCHEV, AND BY EACH SECRETARY, EXCEPT FOR PETUR DYULGEROV, WHO PRESIDED AT THREE, INCLUDING
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 SOFIA 00571 301723Z

TWO OF THREE FIRINGS, WHICH FURTHER SIGNALS HIS INCREASED RESPONSIBILITIES IN AREA OF PARTY CADRE. CENTRAL CONTROL-REVISIONARY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN STOYAN KARADZHOV, STATE COUNCIL DEPUTY CHAIRMEN GEORGI DZHAGAROV AND MITKO GRIGOROV, AND MINISTERIAL COUNCIL DEPUTY CHAIRMEN KIRIL ZAREV, MAKO DAKOV, SAVA DULBOKOV, AND GRIGOR STOICHKOV ALSO EACH TOOK ONE MEETING.

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

2. THREE DISTRICT CHAIRMEN WERE CHANGED. IN VIDIN, LYUDMIL PENDELASHKI REPLACED LYUBOMIR BONCHEV, VIDIN FIRST SECRETARY SINCE 1972, WITH CENTRAL COMMITTEE SECRETARY IVAN PRUMOV PRESIDING. IN SHUMEN, VASIL VACHKOV, FIRST SECRETARY SINCE 1966, WAS REPLACED BY GEORGI NACHEV, WITH DYULGEROV PRESIDING; AND IN HASKOVO, GOSPODIN KORTSANOV. FIRST SECRETARY SINCE 1962, WAS REPLACED BY PRESENT BULGARIAN AMBASSADOR TO JAPAN RUMEN SERBEZOV (REF B), WITH DYULGEROV PRESIDING.

3. A FOURTH CHANGE OCCURRED AT SAME PARTY LEVEL SOMETIME BEFORE JANUARY 6. NEW 1978 BULGARIAN TELEGRAPH AGENCY DIRECTORY LISTED DIMITUR DIMITROV, PROBABLY FORMER HEAD OF BCP CENTRAL COMMITTEE ORGANIZATIONAL DEPARTMENT (REPLACED IN JUNE 1977 BY PETUR DYULGEROV), REPLACING GEORGI IVANOV AS CHAIRMAN OF UNITED BCP COMMITTEE IN THE USSR FOR THOUSANDS OF BULGARIANS STUDYING AND WORKING THERE.

4. FIFTH INTERESTING APPOINTMENT WAS PRESS ANNOUNCEMENT MARJI 28 THAT PETUR ALEKSANDROV MEZHDURECHKI, UNTIL RECENTLY BULGARIAN AMBASSADOR TO THE FRG, HAD BEEN NAMED CHAIRMAN OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF SOFIA CITY PEOPLE'S COUNCIL, REPLACING IVAN PANEV (REF C); INFORMATION THAT MFA OFFICIAL HAD PASSED TO OUR AMBASSADOR SEVERAL MONTHS AGO.

5. APPOINTMENTS OF SERBEZOV, 39, AND MEZHDURECHKI, 43, CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 SOFIA 00571 301723Z

BOTH RELATIVELY YOUNG MEN FROM MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS WITH REPUTATIONS FOR GETTING THINGS DONE, INEVITABLY SUGGEST INFLUENCE OF NEW POLITBURO MEMBER, FOREIGN MINISTER MLADENOV, IN SELECTION FOR PARTY POSTS.

6. CHANGES OF FIRST SECRETARY IN THREE OF TWENTY-SEVEN OKRUGS AND USSR COMMITTEE WILL ALSO BE SEEN BY SOME OBSERVERS AS EVIDENCE OF FURTHER PURGE OF BORIS VELCHEV'S MEN FROM HIGH PARTY POSTS. IT IS IMPORTANT TO NOTE THAT ONLY CHANGE IN PERSONNEL THAT CAN UNAMBIGUOUSLY BE ATTRIBUTED TO OUSTER OF VELCHEV WAS JUNE 10, 1977 REPLACEMENT OF YAMBOL FIRST SECRETARY HRISTO GEORGIEV AND SECRETARY MARIYA ROSHMANOVA BY KHRISTAKI KUNEV AND IVAN OVCHAROV (REF D). VRATSA FIRST SECRETARY NANO LALOV, WHOM SOME IDENTIFIED AS A VELCHEV MAN, SCHEDULED TO BE PURGED, WAS REELECTED MARCH 1. IN GENERAL, TURNOVER IN BCP (AND GOB) POSTS IS FAIRLY HIGH AND SHOULD NOT BE ATTRIBUTED TO THE VELCHEV OUSTER UNLESS CLEAR EVIDENCE EXISTS. (AN EXAMPLE OF WHAT EMBASSY CONSIDERS TO BE SUCH MISINTERPRETATION IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL FOREIGN ASSESSMENT CENTER'S BIOGRAPHIC RESEARCH PAPER ON BULGARIAN AMBASSADOR TO US KONSTANTIN GRIGOROV-- CR 78-10423 OF FEBRUARY 1978-- WHICH ATTRIBUTES GRIGOROV'S

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

RECALL FROM PEKING TO VELCHEV'S OUSTER, WITHOUT ANY
EVIDENCE WE ARE AWARE OF AND INCONSISTENT WITH
GRIGOROV'S SUBSEQUENT APPOINTMENT TO WASHINGTON.)

7. DATE OF APRIL NATIONAL PARTY CONFERENCE HAS NOT YET
BEEN ANNOUNCED ALTHOUGH POSTERS HAVE ALREADY APPEARED IN
COUNTRYSIDE, BUT NOT YET IN SOFIA, HERALDING THE DECISIONS
OF THE DECEMBER (1977) PLENUM WHICH WILL BE THE THEME OF
THE CONFERENCE AND WHICH WILL PROBABLY NOW COME TO REPLACE
THE JULY (1976) PLENUM AS THE EVENT WHOSE DECISIONS
BULGARIANS WILL BE EXHORTED TO IMPLEMENT.

8. BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION ON MEZHDURECHKI AND SERBEZOV
FOLLOW SEPTEL.
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 SOFIA 00571 301723Z

GARTHOFF

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PLANNING MEETING, REPORTS, PARTY MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 30 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978SOFIA00571
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780139-0863
Format: TEL
From: SOFIA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t1978038/aaaaaghs.tel
Line Count: 137
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 0ad318c9-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 SOFIA 2535, 78 SOFIA 570, 77 SOFIA 2408
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 06 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3364192
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BCP NATIONAL PARTY CONFERENCE: DISTRICT FIRST SECRETAJNES ELECTED
TAGS: PINR, PINT, BU
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/0ad318c9-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014